

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. **(Currently Amended)** A system for treating bone fractures comprising:
a delivery catheter;
an expandable device for occupying space within bones, releasably carried by the delivery catheter; and
a means of expanding the device configured for removal from the bone upon expansion of the expandable device;
whereby the expanded device mechanically is configured to fixate the fracture once the delivery catheter and the means of expanding the device are removed from the bone.
2. **(Currently Amended)** The system of claim 1 wherein the means of expanding the device is an inflatable catheter configured for removal from the bone after expanding the expandable device.
3. **(Withdrawn)** The device system of claim 1 wherein the means of expanding the device is an axially compressed elastomeric grommet which expands radially when compressed
4. **(Withdrawn)** The device system of claim 1 wherein the means of expanding the device is the inherent spring force contained within the structure of the expandable device
5. **(Withdrawn)** The device system of claim 1 wherein the means of expansion is self-contained within the expandable device
6. **(Withdrawn)** The device system of claim 5, wherein the means of expansion is a relative movement of the opposing ends of the device
7. **(Withdrawn)** The device system of claim 1, wherein the expanded device is substantially tubular
8. **(Withdrawn)** The device system of claim 1, wherein the expanded device has a substantially cylindrical cross-section
9. **(Currently Amended)** The system of claim 1, wherein the expanded device joins separated bone segments.
10. **(Currently Amended)** A method for treating bone fractures comprising;
providing an expandable device for occupying space within a bone segment;
creating an access hole in bone;

disposing the expandable device upon a delivery device, the delivery device comprising a balloon;

inserting the expandable device through the access hole within the bone segment;
advancing the expandable device to ~~the~~ a desired location within the bone segment;

~~activating a portion of the delivery device~~ inflating the balloon in order to cause expansion of the expandable device; and

removing the balloon from the bone; and

hardening a substance within the bone segment ~~expandable device~~ after the activating removing the balloon step.

11. **(Withdrawn)** A method of claim 10, to further include deactivating the delivery device and removing from the bone segment

12. **(Cancelled)**

13. **(Cancelled)**

14. **(Withdrawn)** A method of claim 10, wherein the expandable devices are generally tubular in structure and plastically deformed in order to maintain expanded diameter

15. **(Withdrawn)** A method of claim 10, wherein the expandable devices are generally tubular in structure and are mechanically deformed

16. **(Currently Amended)** A device system for treating bones comprising;
an expandable tubular device,

a delivery device comprising a balloon;

said expandable tubular device removably attached to the balloon ~~delivery device~~;
whereby the balloon ~~delivery device~~ expands the tubular device at the treatment site,
whereby the balloon ~~delivery device~~ ~~may be~~ is configured to be removed leaving the expanded tubular device in place to span bone segments.

17. **(Currently Amended)** The device system as in claim 16 wherein said expandable tubular device comprises a tubular mesh.

18. **(Withdrawn)** The device as in claim 16 wherein said device has multiple splines.

19. **(Withdrawn)** The device as in claim 16 wherein said device is a coil.

20. **(Withdrawn)** The device as in claim 16 wherein said device is a slotted tube.

21. **(Withdrawn)** The device as in claim 16 wherein electrical energy is delivered
22. **(Withdrawn)** The device as in claim 16 wherein the device has a coating
23. **(Withdrawn)** A device for treating fractured bones comprising;
a self-expandable tubular device;
a delivery device;
tubular device within the delivery device;
said device combination advanced to desired location;
said tubular device released from delivery device at desired location; whereby the
tubular device expands at treatment site, whereby the expanded tubular device joins and
fixates bone fracture.
24. **(Withdrawn)** A device as in claim 23, wherein the stress applied to the bone
from the radially expanded device enhances healing of the fracture.
25. **(New)** A method of claim 10 wherein the advancing the expandable device spans
a bone fracture.
26. **(New)** A method of claim 10 wherein the advancing the bone fracture comprises
a compound fracture.